

TWO MORE NEW SPECIES OF *IMPATIENS* L. FROM SOUTH INDIA¹

V. BHASKAR² AND B. A. RAZI³

(With a plate)

Impatiens L. (Balsaminaceae) has its greatest development in the Indian region and is remarkably local and has maximum amplitude in two well defined regions, namely the Himalaya in the North and the Western Ghats in the South. There is no doubt in respect of *Impatiens*, the Western Ghats are the second richest area in the subcontinent and perhaps in the world. The genus contains over 200 species in India, of which 86 species occur in South India as reported earlier by Hooker (1904), Gamble (1915), Blatter (1933), Fischer (1936), and Barnes (1939). Among them, at least 90 per cent of the species are restricted to hills of South India. The most important centre of speciation of this genus being in South India (Bhaskar 1981), the species of *Impatiens* have an individuality separate from those recorded from the north or elsewhere. Two of the sections viz., 'Scapigeræ' and 'Epiphyticae' are exclusively confined to peninsular India. A new 'Epiphyticae' species *I. urceolata* Bhaskar has

been already recorded as a new species from South India (Bhaskar and Grey-Wilson, in press). Endemism in *Impatiens* has also been reflected in their pollen characters and a 'pollen variety' of *I. acaulis* has been reported (Bhaskar *et al.* 1975). During the study on the South Indian *Impatiens* two more balsams have been found to be new to science and are described in this paper.

Section : 'Scapigeræ'

Impatiens agumbeana sp. nov.

Differt a *I. stocksii* et *I. lawsonii* calcarum cylindrico distincto ad 4 mm longo includenti distinctaque 'auricula dorsali' 3-4 mm longa ; lobo distali alae leviter lobato ; alis libere-dichotome venosis.

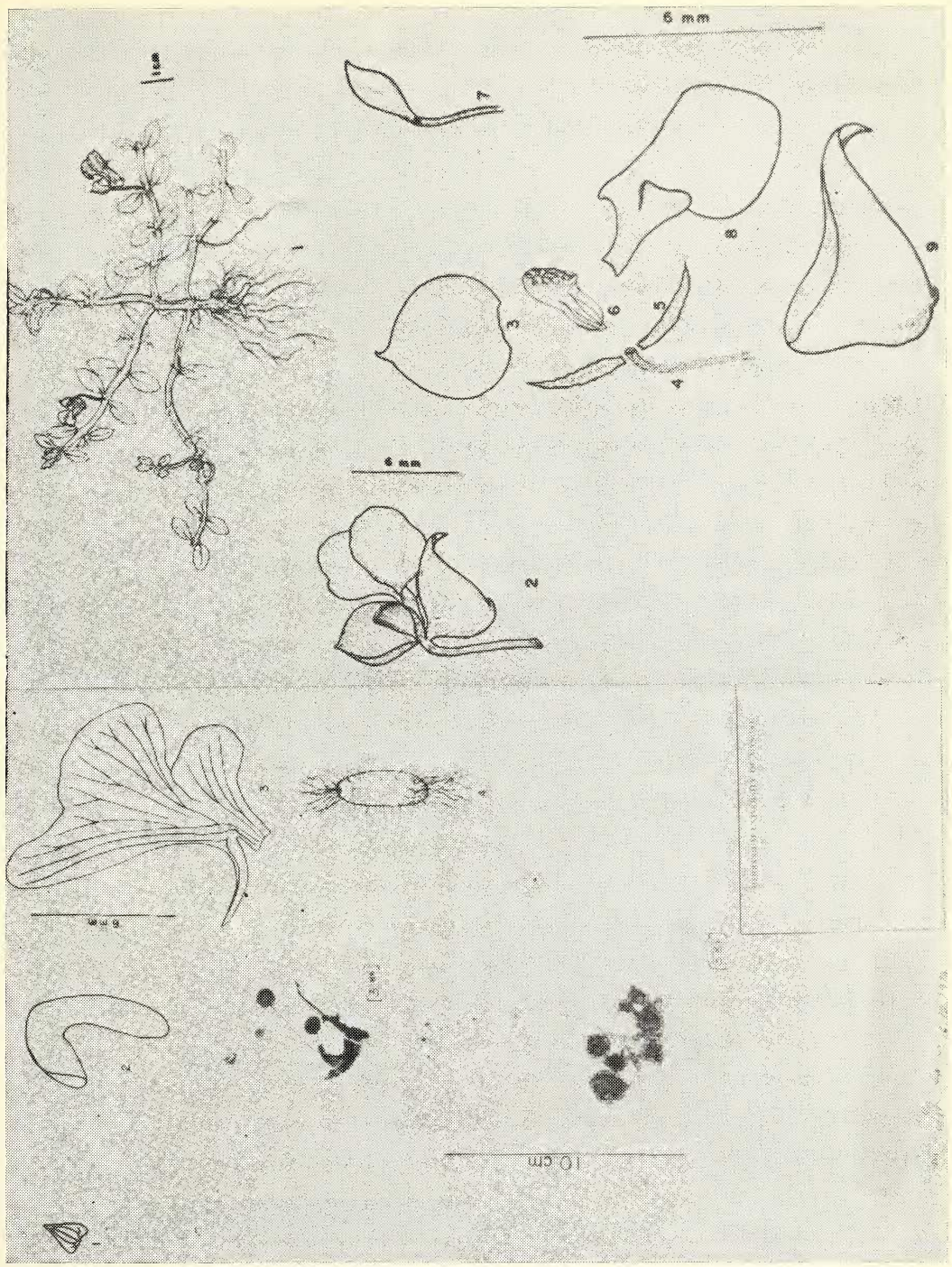
Differs from its near relatives *I. stocksii* and *I. lawsonii* in having a distinct cylindrical spur, about 4 mm long, enclosing a distinct 'dorsal auricle' 3-4 mm long, and a slightly lobed distal lobe of wing, wings with open dichotomous venation.

Epiphytic scapigerous perennial herb, c. 10 cm tall, tuberous ; leaves 2-5, radical ; petiole 3-4 cm long, filiform ; lamina 1.5-1 cm, ovate, obtuse, base acute, margins faintly crenate, crenatures minutely apiculate, pubescent above ; flowers in erect scapes, pinkish ; scape c. 10 cm long, slender ; bracts linear or ovate ; pedicels filiform, c. 1 cm long, glab-

¹ Accepted October 1981.

² Postgraduate Department of Botany, Manasagan-gotri, Mysore University, Mysore-560 065, India. Present address : Department of Farm Forestry, University of Agricultural Sciences, GKVK, Bangalore-560 065.

³ Survey of medicinal plants unit, Govt. Central Pharmacy, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560 011. Present address : Convenor-Secretary, Karnataka Association for advancement of Science, C/o. Dept. of Mathematics, Central College, Bangalore.



Left : *I. agumbeana* sp. nov. : 1. Sepal ; 2. Lip with spur ; 3. Wing petal with dorsal auricle ; 4. Seed with hairs.
 Right : *I. raziana* sp. nov. : 1. The plant ; 2. a flower ; 3. Standard ; 4. Pubescent pedicel ; 5. Linear sepals ; 6. Sex organs ; 7. Fruit ;
 8. Wing petal ; 9. Lip with a rudimentary spur.

